

C MTE 10

DCI/ICS 84-4016
30 May 1984

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31 MAY 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Data Processing
FROM: Chairman, Information Handling Committee
SUBJECT: RECON GUARD Testing

Gail,

1. Per our telephone conversation of 23 May I want to reconfirm the IHC's support for a test of RECON GUARD connected to COINS Host Access System (HAS) equipment and the COINS network. We believe that such testing is important for planning future security provisions to be used with the Community Information Retrieval System (CIRS).

2. Provisions for this testing are well documented in your memorandum to the DDS&T, dated 14 April 1983; the Memorandum of Understanding signed by you, Clare Rice, and [redacted] dated 3 June 1983; and the RECON GUARD Status Report (Phases 9 and 10) prepared by [redacted] dated 4 May 1984.

3. When the IHC supported undertaking the RECON GUARD project it anticipated that the technology might allow a limited subset of COINS users outside of CIA to access the RECON data base. I understand that any final decision on implementing such a capability must await both a final evaluation of an operational test of the RECON GUARD and the outcome of the CIA's present review of its information sharing policy. Any operational deployment of the GUARD system for this purpose might also require some further development of the GUARD device. Nevertheless, I believe that it would be premature to remove the GUARD equipment or the COINS HAS until evaluation of the project is complete and due consideration has been given to providing a limited degree of access to RECON through COINS.

4. I am pleased to hear that testing of the RECON GUARD equipment appears to be progressing successfully. The technology may provide a solution to one of the Intelligence Community's most difficult data handling problems (i.e., data base security). If I can be of any further assistance, please call.

cc: COINS PMO [redacted]
CIA/ORD [redacted]

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